

THE DAY the CRAYONS QUIT



From the illustrator of STUCK
and THIS MOOSE BELONGS TO ME

One day in class, Duncan went
to take out his crayons and found
a stack of letters with his name
on them.



Hey DUNCAN,
It's me, RED Crayon. WE NEED to talk.
You make me work harder than
any of your other crayons.
All year long I wear myself out
coloring FIRE ENGINES, APPLES,
strawberties and **EVERYTHING**
ELSE that's RED.

I even work on Holidays!
I have to color all the SANTAS
at CHRISTmas and ALL the
HEARTS on VALENTINE's day!

I NEED A REST!

Your overworked friend,

RED Crayon



Dear Duncan,

All right, LISTEN.

I love that I'm your favorite crayon
for grapes, dragons, and wizards' hats,
but it makes me crazy that so much
of my gorgeous color goes outside
the lines. If you DON'T START
COLORING INSIDE the lines
soon... I'm going to
COMPLETELY LOSE IT.

Your very neat friend,

Purple crayon



Dear Duncan,

I'm tired of being called
"light brown" or "Dark tan"
because I am neither.

I am BEIGE and I am proud.

I'm also tired of being second
place to Mr. Brown Crayon.

It's not fair that Brown gets
all the bears, ponies and puppies
while the only things I get
are turkey dinners (if I'm lucky)
and wheat, and let's be honest -
when was the last time you
saw a kid excited about
coloring wheat?

Your BEIGE Friend,
Beige Crayon



Duncan,

GRAY CRAYON here. You're KILLING ME!

I know you love Elephants. And I know that elephants are gray... but that's a LOT of space to color in all by myself.

And don't even get me started on your rhinos, hippos and

HUMPBACK WHALES...

you know how tired I am after handling one of those things?

such **BIG** animals...

Baby penguins are gray, you know. so are very tiny rocks, pebbles. How about one of those once in a while to give me a break?

~~For~~ Your very tired friend,
GRAY CRAYON



Dear Duncan,

You color with me, but why?
Most of the time I'm the
same color as the page you
are using me on - WHITE.
If I didn't have a black
outline, you wouldn't even
know I was THERE!
I'm not even in the rainbow.
I'm only used to color
SNOW or to fill in empty
space between other things.
And it leaves me feeling...
...well... empty. We need
to talk.
Your empty friend,
White Crayon



white cat
in the snow
by
Duncan

Hi, Duncan,
I HATE being used to draw
~~the~~ the outline of things...
... things that are colored in
by other colors, all of which
think they're brighter than me!
It's NOT FAIR when you use
me to draw a nice beach ball
and then fill in the colors of
the ball with ALL THE OTHER
CRAYONS. How about a
BLACK Beach ball some time?
Is that too much to ask?

Your friend,
Black Crayon

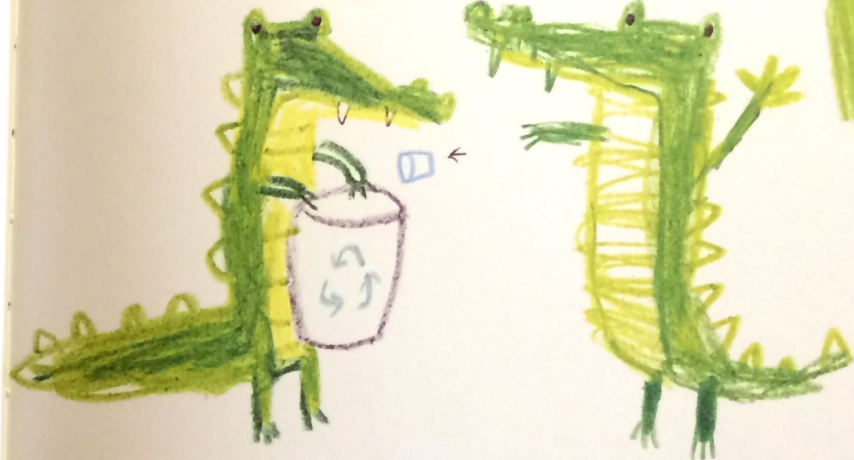


Dear Duhan,

As Green Crayon, I am writing for two reasons. One is to say that I like my workloads of crocodiles, trees, dinosaurs, and Frogs. I have no problems and wish to congratulate you on a very successful "coloring things green" career so far.

The second reason I write is for my friends, Yellow Crayon and Orange Crayon, who are no longer speaking to each other. Both crayons feel THEY should be the color of the sun. Please settle this soon because they're driving the rest of us CRAZY!

Your happy friend, Green Crayon



Dear Duncan,

Yellow crayon here. I need you
to tell orange crayon that I am
the color of the sun. I would
tell him but we are no longer speaking.
And I can PROVE I'm the color
of the sun too! Last Tuesday,
you used me to color in the sun
on your "HAPPY FARM" coloring
book. In case you've forgotten,
it's on page 7. You CAN'T miss me.
I'm shining down brilliantly on
a field of YELLOW corn!
Your pal (and the true color of the sun),
Yellow crayon



Dear Duncan,
I see yellow crayon already
talked to you, the BIG WHINER.
Anyway, could you please tell Mr.
Tattletale that he IS NOT the
color of the sun? I would, but
we're no longer speaking.
We both know I am clearly the
color of the sun because, on
thursday, you used me to color
the sun on BOTH the "monkey island"
and the "meet the zookeeper"
pages in your "DAY AT The ZOO"
coloring book. orange you glad
I'm here? Ha!
your Pal (and the real color
of the sun),
orange Crayon



Meet the Zookeeper



Monkey Island



Dear DUNCAN,
It has been great being your
FAVORITE color this PAST year.
And the year before. And the
YEAR before ~~the~~ THAT!
I have really enjoyed all those
OCEANS, LAKES, RIVERS,
raindrops, rain CLOUDS and
CLEAR skies.

But the BAD NEWS is that
I am so short and stubby,
I can't even see over the
railing in the CRAYON BOX
any more!
I need a BREAK!
Your very stubby friend,
Blue Crayon



Duncan,

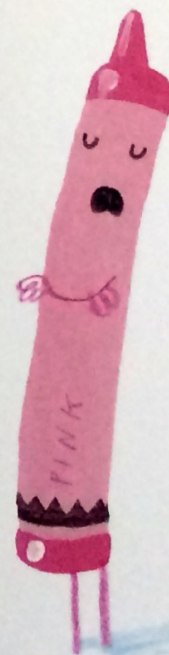
OKay, LISTEN HERE, KID!

You have not used me ONCE in ~~the~~
the past year.

Its because you think I am a GIRLS' color, isn't it? speaking of which, please tell your little sister I said thank you for using me to color in her "LITTLE PRINCESS" coloring book. I think she did a fabulous job of staying inside the lines!

Now, back to us. could you PLEASE use me sometime to color the occasional PINK DINOSAUR or MONSTER or COWBOY? Goodness knows they could use a splash of color.

Your unused friend,
Pink crayon



HEY DUNCAN,
It's me, PEACH CRAYON.
WHY did you peel off
my paper wrapping??
Now I'm NAKED and too
embarrassed to leave the
crayon box.
I don't even have ~~an~~ any
underwear! How would
you like to go to
school naked? I need
some clothes. HELP!
Your naked friend,
PEACH crayon





Well, poor Duncan just wanted to color . . .
and of course he wanted his crayons to
be happy. And that gave him an idea.

When Duncan showed his teacher his new picture, she gave him an A for coloring . . .



... and an A+ for creativity!



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The art for this book was made with . . . um . . . crayons.

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Summary: When Duncan arrives at school one morning, he finds a stack of letters,

one from each of his crayons, complaining about how he uses them.

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